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**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing

OR

Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number	62512.05/ejg
First Name Inventor	Michael Strickland et al
<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
Application Number	
Filing Date	
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**SEGMENTED COLD FORMED JOIST**

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

 is attached hereto

OR

 was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)   as United States Application Number or PCT InternationalApplication Number   and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)   (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached? YES	Certified Copy Attached? NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

 Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

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**DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application**

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Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

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Fax

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR :**

A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name MICHAEL  
(first and middle [if any])

Family Name or Surname STRICKLAND

Inventor's Signature

Nov 21/03  
DateRichmond Hill  
Residence: CityOntario  
StateCanada  
CountryCanadian  
Citizenship

95 Church Street South

Mailing Address

Richmond Hill  
CityOntario  
StateL4C 1W4  
ZIPCanada  
Country**NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:**

A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name LEI  
(first and middle [if any])

Family Name or Surname XU

Inventor's Signature

Nov. 21/03  
DateWaterloo  
Residence: CityOntario  
StateCanada  
CountryCanadian  
Citizenship

Mailing Address 475 Cabot Trail

Waterloo  
CityOntario  
StateN2K 4C8  
ZIPCanada  
Country Additional inventors are being named on the \_\_\_\_\_ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/81 (10-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0035

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## POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Michael Strickland
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	62512.0005

I hereby appoint:

Practitioners at Customer Number

33797

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Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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I am the:

Applicant/Inventor.

Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

### SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name	Michael Strickland
Signature	
Date	21-NW-03

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below\*.

\*Total of 2 forms are submitted.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/81 (10-00)

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## POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Lei Xu
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	62512.0005

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Practitioner(s) named below:

Name	Registration Number

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name		
Address		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Country		
Telephone	Fax	

I am the:

Applicant/Inventor.

Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
*Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).*

### SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name	Lei Xu
Signature	
Date	Nov. 21/03

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below\*.

\*Total of 2 forms are submitted.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Best Joist Inc.  
Invention: Segmented Cold Formed Joist  
Attorney Docket No.: 62512.05

**ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY**

November 24, 2003

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

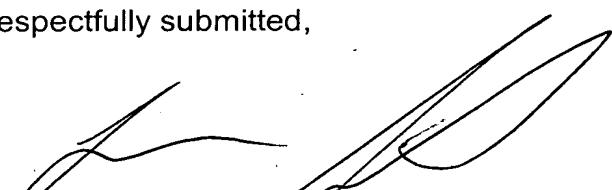
Dear Sir:

Please recognize Charles N.J. Ruggiero, Reg. No. 28,468 and Paul D. Greeley, Reg. No. 31,019 of the law firm Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P. with Office at One Landmark Square, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Stamford, Connecticut 06901-2682, as an attorney, with full and complete powers to prosecute this patent application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please continue to address all correspondence to:

Charles N.J. Ruggiero, Esq.  
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.  
One Landmark Square, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Stamford, Connecticut 06901-2682  
Telephone: (203) 327-4500  
Facsimile: (203) 327-6401

Respectfully submitted,



Eugene J.A. Gierczak  
Reg. No. 31,690  
Miller Thomson LLP  
2500, 20 Queen Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M5H 3S1